

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/449,707

Examiner

Sanjiv D. Shah

Applicant(s)

CONSTANTINO ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Interview on 10/27/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 22-49.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>102705</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                                  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jack P. Friedman on 10/27/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 50-55.

22. A contract handling method relating to an executed master contract between a corporation and a company, said corporation comprising a plurality of units, said method comprising generating at least one statement of work (SOW) under the master contract, each SOW of the at least one SOW being associated with a corresponding unit of the plurality of units such that each SOW describes a project of its corresponding unit with the company, said generating comprising; for a SOW of the at least one SOW;

selecting one or more model agreements from a library of model agreements;  
merging all or part of the one or more model agreements to form the SOW;  
processing reminders of key dates for the SOW into tracking data;

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storing the SOW and tracking data in a repository;

amending the master contract;

notifying all associated SOW owners of the at least one SOW of said amending;

and

wherein the master contract cannot be closed if any SOW of at least one SOW is still open.

34. A contract handling system relating to an executed master contract between a corporation and a company, said corporation comprising a plurality of units, said system comprising:

a document assembler for selecting one or more model agreements from a library of model agreements and for merging all or part of the one or more model agreements to form a statement of work (SOW) under the master contract, said SOW being between associated with a unit of the plurality of units such that each SOW describes a project of the unit with the company;

a tracker tool for processing reminders of key dates for the SOW into tracking data;

repository for storing the SOW and the tracking data;

amending the master contract;

notifying all associated SOW owners of the at least one SOW of said amending;

and

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wherein the master contract cannot be closed if any SOW of at least one SOW is still open.

41. A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having a computer readable program code embodied therein, said computer readable program code adapted to implement a contract handling method relating to an executed master contract between a corporation and a company, said corporation comprising a plurality of units, said method comprising generating at least one statement of work (SOW) under the master contract, each SOW of the at least one SOW being associated with a corresponding unit of the plurality of units such that each SOW describes a project of its corresponding unit with the company, said generating comprising, for a SOW of the at least one SOW;

selecting one or more model agreements from a library of model agreements;

merging all or part of the one or more model agreements to form the SOW;

processing reminders of key dates for the SOW into tracking data;

storing the SOW and tracking data in a repository;

amending the master contract;

notifying all associated SOW owners of the at least one SOW of said amending;

and

wherein the master contract cannot be closed if any SOW of at least one SOW is still open.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The cited prior art fails to teach claimed invention alone or in a combination.

Specifically claimed features of amending a master contract, notifying all SOW of amendment and preventing master contract of closing in the event of any SOW being open, asserts that the SOW are related to master contract and master contract cannot be closed without closing open SOW. The cited prior art generally teaches addendum or amending the contract but fails to teach in combination the invention as claimed.

Therefore the invention as claimed is allowable over the cited prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sanjiv D. Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-4098. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh M. Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sanjiv D. Shah  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2627

S. Shah  
October 27, 2005